

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
HARRIS COUNTY
AND THE
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 6**

I. Introduction

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made between Region 6 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Harris County, Texas. Region 6 EPA and Harris County enter this MOU to establish a partnership to engage the community in the EPA decisions in the cleanup of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site located in Harris County.

II. Purpose

The EPA is entrusted with the duty to protect human health and the environment through timely and effective site remediation under the Superfund program. Community involvement is integral to the Superfund cleanup process. The EPA has placed the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site in Pasadena, Harris County, Texas on the National Priorities List of the Superfund Program on March 19, 2008. Harris County is interested in protecting the public health and welfare of their citizenry.

III. Goals

Region 6 EPA is forming the San Jacinto Technical Advisory Committee (SJTAC) with Harris County departments in order to review and discuss technical aspects of the cleanup process of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site. SJTAC will provide comments and recommendations regarding the technical components of the Superfund cleanup process including the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, Remedial Design, and Remedial Action.

IV. Reservation of Rights

Region 6 EPA and the Harris County both pledge in good faith to go forward with the MOU and to further the foals and purposes of this MOU. Region 6 EPA and Harris County shall attempt to resolve any disputes through good faith discussions. The EPA and Harris County reserve any and all rights or authority that they respectively have, including but not limited to, legal, equitable, or administrative rights. Nothing in this MOU herein limits EPA's decision making authority under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

V. Modification/Duration/Termination

This MOU is to take effect upon signature of all participants and remain in effect for the duration of the National Priorities Listing of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site, unless the participants decide otherwise in writing. This MOU may be amended any time by the mutual consent of the participants. A participant may terminate its participation in this MOU by providing written notice to the other participant.

For Region 6 Environmental Protection Agency:

For Harris County:

Vince Ryan
Harris County Attorney

Date

Date